

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A display apparatus having plural luminance modulation elements that modulate luminance upon application of a voltage of positive polarity and do not modulate luminance upon application of a voltage of reverse polarity, having

10 plural scanning electrodes parallel with each other and plural data electrodes parallel with each other, in which each of the luminance modulation elements is disposed at an intersection between the scanning electrode and the data electrode, and having

15 first driving means connected to the plural scanning electrodes and outputting scanning pulses, and second driving means connected to the plural data electrodes, wherein, at a certain time point,

20 the scanning electrodes are grouped into those in a selected state applied with a scanning pulse and those other than described above in a non-selected state,

25 the number of the scanning lines in the selected state is n_1 ,

the scanning lines in the non-selected state are grouped into non-selected state scanning lines at a high impedance state and non-selected state scanning lines at a low impedance state, the non-selected state scanning lines

at the high impedance state are at a higher impedance state than the scanning lines in the selected state, and the non-selected state scanning lines at the low impedance state is in a lower impedance state than the non-selected state 5 scanning lines at the high impedance state, and the number of the non-selected state scanning lines at the low impedance state is $n_1 \times 2$ or more.

2. A display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the 10 number of the non-selected state scanning lines at the low impedance state is 10% or less for the number of the scanning electrodes.

3. A display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the 15 impedance of the non-selected state scanning line at the high impedance state is $1 M\Omega$ or higher.

4. A display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an 20 organic light emitting diode is used for the luminance modulation element.

5. A display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the 25 luminance modulation element comprises a combination of an electron emission element and a phosphor.

6. A display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the luminance modulation element comprises a combination of a thin film electron emitter having an top electrode, an electron acceleration layer and a base electrode, and a 5 phosphor.

7. A display apparatus having plural luminance modulation elements that modulate luminance upon application of a voltage of positive polarity and do not 10 modulate luminance upon application of a voltage of reverse polarity, having

plural scanning electrodes parallel with each other and plural data electrodes parallel with each other, and having

15 first driving means connected to the plural scanning electrodes and outputting scanning pulses, and second driving means connected to the plural data electrodes, wherein

the scanning electrodes are set to at least three 20 states, namely, a selected state applied with a scanning pulse, a non-selected state at a high impedance state and a non-selected state at a low impedance state,

wherein the non-selected state scanning lines at the 25 low impedance state is at a lower impedance state than the non-selected state scanning lines at the high impedance

state, and the non-selected state at the low impedance state and the non-selected state at the high impedance state are repeated alternately.

5 8. A display apparatus according to claim 7, wherein image display operation is conducted by a line sequential scanning operation.

9. A display apparatus according to claim 7, wherein a 10 relation $Z \times C_L > 5 \times H$ is satisfied, in which C_L represents the electrostatic capacitance of the scanning electrode, Z represents the output impedance of the first driving means when the electrode is set to the non-selected state at the high impedance state, and H represents a time slot for the 15 selected period of one scanning line.

10. A display apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the first driving means has a means of providing a low impedance state when the potential on the scanning electrode in the 20 non-selected states is going to exceed a predetermined voltage range and retaining the potential on the scanning electrodes within the predetermined voltage range.

11. A display apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the 25 predetermined voltage range ranges from the first voltage

end to the second voltage end, wherein at the first voltage end, the voltage applied to the luminance modulation element is on the side of the positive polarity with the amplitude of V_1 , and at the second voltage end, the voltage applied to the luminance modulation element is on the side of the reverse polarity with the amplitude of V_2 , and the absolute value of V_2 is larger than that of V_1 .

12. A display apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the
10 following equation is satisfied:

$$(1/n_p) + (n_1/N) \leq 0.1$$

where n_1 represents the number of the scanning electrodes in the selected state at a time, N represents the number of the scanning electrodes, and $n_p[H]$ represents the average 15 repetition period in which the non-selected state at the low impedance state and the non-selected state at the high impedance state are repeated.

13. A display apparatus having plural luminance
20 modulation elements comprising electron emission element and phosphor, having

plural scanning electrodes parallel with each other and plural data electrodes parallel with each other, and having

first driving means connected to the plural scanning electrodes and outputting scanning pulses, and second driving means connected to the plural data electrodes, wherein

5 the first driving means take at least three states, namely, a selected state of applying scanning pulses, a non-selected state at a high impedance state and a non-selected state at a low impedance state, the non-selected state scanning lines at the low impedance state
10 is at a lower impedance state than the non-selected state scanning lines at the high impedance state, and the non-selected state at the low impedance state and the non-selected state at the high impedance state are repeated alternately.

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14. A display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the image display operation is conducted by a line sequential scanning operation.

20 15. A display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein a relation $Z \times C_L > 5 \times H$ is satisfied, in which C_L represents the electrostatic capacitance of the scanning electrode, Z represents the output impedance of the first driving means when the electrode is set to the non-selected state at the

high impedance state and H represents a time slot for the selected period of one scanning line.

16. A display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the 5 first driving means has a means of providing a low impedance state when the potential on the scanning electrode in the non-selected states is going to exceed a predetermined voltage range and retaining the potential on the scanning electrodes within the predetermined voltage range.

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17. A display apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the predetermined voltage range ranges from the first voltage end to the second voltage end, wherein at the first voltage end, the voltage applied to the luminance modulation element 15 is on the side of the positive polarity for the luminance modulation element with the amplitude of V1, and at the second voltage end, the voltage applied to the luminance modulation element is on the side of the reverse polarity with the amplitude of V2, wherein the absolute value of V2 20 is larger than that of V1.

18. A display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the following equation is satisfied:

$$(1/n_p) + (n_1/N) \leq 0.1$$

where n_1 represents the number of the scanning electrodes in the selected state at a time, N represents the number of the scanning electrodes, and $n_p[H]$ represents the average repetition period in which the non-selected state at the low 5 impedance state and the non-selected state at the high impedance state are repeated.

19. A display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the scanning electrode is formed on the side nearer to vacuum 10 than the data electrode.

20. A display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the scanning electrode is in contact with vacuum.

15 21. A display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein some of the scanning electrodes are in contact with the spacer, and the scanning electrodes in contact with the spacer are set to the low impedance state during the display 20 operation period.

22. A display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the following equation is satisfied:

$$(1/n_p) + (n_1 + n_s)/N \leq 0.1$$

where n_1 represents the number of the scanning electrodes

25 in the selected state at a time, N represents the number of

the scanning electrodes, n_s represents the number of scanning electrodes in contact with the spacers, and $n_p[H]$ represents the average repetition period in which the non-selected state at the low impedance state and the 5 non-selected state at the high impedance state are repeated.